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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

HANLEY, FLIGHT & ZIMMERMAN LLC
150 S. WACKER DRIVE
SUITE 2100
CHICAGO, IL 60606

In re Patent No. 6,844,940
Issue Date: January 18, 2005
Application No. 10/755,743
Filed: January 12, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 27600/X046A

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed May 29, 2009, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on January 18, 2009, for failure to pay the three and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the petition was ever given a power of attorney to prosecute the application. If the person signing the petition desires to receive future

correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney document must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address currently of record until appropriate instructions are received.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Diane Goodwyn at (571) 272-6735.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thurman K. Page". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thurman" and last name "Page" clearly distinguishable.

Thurman K. Page
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: CATO YANG
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